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| EXAMINER | |
|---|---|
| PATEL, ASHOKKUMAR B | |

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| 2154 | |

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 09/921,959 | ROZENFELD ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Ashok B. Patel | 2154 | |

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 December 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-70* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *2-4,33-35,64-66 and 68-70* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,5-32,36-63 and 67* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *12/12/05*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

## DETAILED ACTION

**1.** Claims 1-70 are subject to examination. Claims 2-4, 33-35, 64-66 and 68-70 have been cancelled.

### *Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114*

**2.** A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/12/2005 has been entered.

### *Response to Arguments*

**3.** Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 32, 63 and 67 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

**3.** The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejection set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

**4.** Claims 1, 6, 7, 10-18, 22, 27, 28, 32, 37, 38, 41-49, 53, 58, 59, 63 and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mundy et al. (US 6,317,792) (hereinafter Mundy) in view of Nieminen et al. (US Patent 6, 578, 075 B1)

(hereinafter Nieminen).

**Referring to claim 1,**

Mundy teaches a method to manage a customized network connection application (Fig. 2 item 30), the method including: receiving at a customization system, the customization information pertaining to the customized network connection application (Fig. 2, items 22 and 24, col. 7, lines 62-65) storing the customization information as a profile associated with the customized network connection application from a customer of the customization system(col. 7, lines 41-49); automatically generating the customized network connection application utilizing the profile (col. 7, line 66-col. 8, line 3-4), subsequent to the distribution of the customized network connection application, receiving further customization information indicating a modification to the profile associated with the customized network connection application and updating the customized network application in accordance with the modification to the profile (col. 7, lines 50-56), and a copy of the customized network connection application is distributed to a recipient (col. 8, lines 3-4) and the application is updated in accordance with modifications to the profile (col. 7,lines 50-55).

Mundy fails to teach as to "receiving the customization information pertaining to the customized network connection application via the plurality of input interfaces, and "distributing the customized network connection application to each of a plurality of end-users associated with the customer", and "distributing a copy of the updated customized network application to each of the plurality of end users associated with the customer."

Nieminen teaches "receiving the customization information pertaining to the customized network connection application via the plurality of input interfaces" (col. 4, line 1-15," An alternative arrangement for distributing services to clients in a communications network comprises client terminal means for requesting and using a certain service and a Connection Manager for identifying the client terminal means and the type of the connection to it such that a terminal means profile becomes generated, for selecting a service program among a plurality of possibilities for a service program capable of executing said requested service on the basis of said terminal means profile, and for delivering said customized service program to said terminal means, wherein the arrangement is such that the service program is used in the client terminal means for implementing the service during the established connection and closing the connection between the connection manager and the client terminal means invalidates the connection instance.", and Fig. 1, col. 5, line, "The ISB is arranged to establish a secure connection between the user 1 and the various service providers, to identify an individual user, to deliver the service request of the user to the service provider and to provide a transfer path for the services between the service provider 6 and the user 1. The ISB further comprises a database, which contains necessary information for establishing the connections, such as information about the connection data (addresses etc.) of the service providers and the users.", and "distributing a copy of the updated customized network application to each of the plurality of end users associated with the customer." and "distributing the customized network connection application to each of a plurality of end-users associated with the customer" (col. 5, line 42-43," The Client

Program is a program which can be run independently in the user terminal, and which enables the user to connect him/herself to the required service. The distribution and customizing thereof occurs in the ISB.")

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this ad at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Nieminen in the "internet Service Broker" location as suggested by Mundy in col. 5, line 34-40 and clearly implemented by Nieminen as to receiving the customization information pertaining to the customized network connection application via the plurality of input interfaces and then distributing the copies of customized network application to each of the plurality of end users (Fig. 1, "Customers") associated with the customer (Fig. 1, "internet Access provider").

This would have obvious because "it provides 1) a new type of solution for accessing various services provided by means of communications networks, 2) an arrangement by means of which the accessibility of services in public communications networks is improved, 3) an arrangement which enable the provision of tailored user interfaces from a common source of services, 4) an arrangement which enable an improved security and reliability of the connections between the user and the services, 5) an arrangement by means of which a centralized management of various services provided by various service providers is enabled, 6) an arrangement by means of which the amount of different types of software and hardware needed by the user to be able to use the various services is reduced, and 7) an arrangement, by means of which the amount of different software and hardware versions of the service providers is reduced,

and in addition, by means of which the user is always provided with the latest possible updated versions of the software.

**Referring to claim 6,**

Mundy fails to explicitly teach the method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of input interfaces include a plurality of markup language documents, and including communicating the plurality of markup language documents from a customization system to a computer system accessed by the customer.

Nimeminen teaches wherein the plurality of input interfaces include a plurality of markup language documents, and including communicating the plurality of markup language documents from a customization system to a computer system accessed by the customer.(col. 8, lines 28-43, col. 7, line 11-34).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this ad at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Nieminen in the "internet Service Broker" location as suggested by Mundy in col. 5, line 34-40 and clearly implemented by Nieminen as to receiving the customization information pertaining to the customized network connection application via the plurality of input interfaces and then distributing the copies of customized network application to each of the plurality of end users (Fig. 1, "Customers") associated with the customer (Fig. 1, "internet Access provider").

This would have obvious because "it provides 1) a new type of solution for accessing various services provided by means of communications networks, 2) an arrangement by means of which the accessibility of services in public communications

networks is improved, 3) an arrangement which enable the provision of tailored user interfaces from a common source of services, 4) an arrangement which enable an improved security and reliability of the connections between the user and the services, 5) an arrangement by means of which a centralized management of various services provided by various service providers is enabled, 6) an arrangement by means of which the amount of different types of software and hardware needed by the user to be able to use the various services is reduced, and 7) an arrangement, by means of which the amount of different software and hardware versions of the service providers is reduced, and in addition, by means of which the user is always provided with the latest possible updated versions of the software.

**Referring to claim 7,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the customization information includes pricing information indicating whether the customized network connection application displays a connection price associated with at least one network connection point accessible utilizing the customized network connection application (col.8, lines 4-8: cost and other factors are optionally used to select the service provider connection point).

**Referring to claim 10,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 7 wherein the connection price is based on a basic connection price specified in a pricing plan associated with the customer and negotiated between the customer and a network access provider (col. 2, lines 45-51).

**Referring to claim 11,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the customization information includes network access point information identifying a plurality of network access points to which the customized network connection application is authorized to establish a network connection (col. 6, lines 8-12).

**Referring to claim 12,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 1 1 wherein the network access point information includes Point of Presence (POP) information identifying at least one Point of Presence (col. 8, lines 10-12).

**Referring to claim 13,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 12 wherein the Point of Presence information includes any one of a group of information items including a country identifier, a region identifier, a city identifier, an area identifier, a telephone number, a maximum connection speed, and price information indicating a price for accessing the at least one Point of Presence (col. 11, lines 56-61 ', price information', col. 7, lines 28-31 : using geographic information or telephone number).

**Referring to claim 14,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the network connection application is authorized to use any one of a collection of network access points to establish a network connection (col. 10, lines 19-23), and wherein the customization information includes update information indicating whether the customized network connection application is automatically to update the collection of network access points (col. 7, lines 55-60).

**Referring to claim 15,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 14 wherein the collection of network access points includes a collection of Points of Presence (POPs) (col. 4, lines 42-44).

**Referring to claim 16,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the customization information includes session limit information indicating a limited amount of time for which a network connection may be established utilizing the customized network connection application (col. 8, lines 58-59).

**Referring to claim 17,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the customization information includes connection mode information indicating a mode by which the customized network connection application establishes a network connection (col. 6, lines 10-19).

**Referring to claim 18,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 17 wherein the connection mode information indicates any one of a group of connection modes including a modem connection, an ISDN connection, a wireless broadband connection, and a wired broadband connection (col. 6, lines 15-19).

**Referring to claim 22,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 1 wherein the customization information includes error action information identifying at least one action to be performed upon occurrence of an error in an establishment of a network connection by the customized network connection application (col. 10, lines 12-16: application may retry or else use

different POP upon failure', col. 10, lines 23-25: use of backup POP may increase the access cost).

**Referring to claim 27,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the customization information includes network access point filter information providing criteria to filter network access points that are accessible utilizing the customized network connection application (col. 7, line 63 - col. 8, line 10: geographic information and price used to identify appropriate access points to be used by used).

**Referring to claim 28,**

Mundy teaches the method of claim of claim 27 wherein the criteria include any one of a group of criteria including a country, a state, a city, a phone number, a connection speed, an access type and a price (col. 7, line 63 - col. 8, line 10: price and geographic information used as criteria).

**Referring to claim 32,**

Mundy teaches a system to manage a customized network connection application, the system including: a customization tool to receive customization information pertaining at a customization system, to the customized network connection application from a customer of the customization system 30(Fig 1, col. 7, lines 43-45),. a database to store the customization information as a profile associated with the customized network connection application (col. 7, lines 41- 49)., and a build server 18 automatically to generate the customized network connection application utilizing the profile (Fig. 2,. Fig. 4, steps 52-58), subsequent to the distribution of the customized

network connection application, the customization tool is to receive further customization information indicating a modification to the profile associated with the customized network connection application, and to update the customized network application in accordance with the modification to the profile (col. 7, lines 50-56), and the build server (Fig. 2, item 18) is to distribute a copy of the customized network connection application is distributed to a recipient (col. 8, lines 3-4) and the application is updated in accordance with modifications to the profile (col. 7, lines 50-55).

Mundy fails to explicitly teach as to "a customization tool to receive customization information pertaining to the customized network connection application via a plurality of input interfaces and to distribute the customized network connection application to a plurality of end-users associated with the customer, and distributing a plurality of copies of the customized network application to a plurality of recipients."

Nieminen teaches ""a customization tool to receive customization information pertaining to the customized network connection application via a plurality of input interfaces" (col. 4, line 1-15," An alternative arrangement for distributing services to clients in a communications network comprises client terminal means for requesting and using a certain service and a Connection Manager for identifying the client terminal means and the type of the connection to it such that a terminal means profile becomes generated, for selecting a service program among a plurality of possibilities for a service program capable of executing said requested service on the basis of said terminal means profile, and for delivering said customized service program to said terminal means, wherein the arrangement is such that the service program is used in the client

terminal means for implementing the service during the established connection and closing the connection between the connection manager and the client terminal means invalidates the connection instance.", and Fig. 1, col. 5, line, "The ISB is arranged to establish a secure connection between the user 1 and the various service providers, to identify an individual user, to deliver the service request of the user to the service provider and to provide a transfer path for the services between the service provider 6 and the user 1. The ISB further comprises a database, which contains necessary information for establishing the connections, such as information about the connection data (addresses etc.) of the service providers and the users.", and "to distribute the customized network connection application to a plurality of end-users associated with the customer, and distributing a plurality of copies of the customized network application to a plurality of recipients." (col. 5, line 42-43," The Client Program is a program which can be run independently in the user terminal, and which enables the user to connect him/herself to the required service. The distribution and customizing thereof occurs in the ISB.")

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this ad at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Nieminen in the "internet Service Broker" location as suggested by Mundy in col. 5, line 34-40 and clearly implemented by Nieminen as to receiving the customization information pertaining to the customized network connection application via the plurality of input interfaces and then distributing the copies of customized network application to each of

the plurality of end users (Fig. 1, "Customers") associated with the customer (Fig. 1, "internet Access provider").

This would have obvious because "it provides 1) a new type of solution for accessing various services provided by means of communications networks, 2) an arrangement by means of which the accessibility of services in public communications networks is improved, 3) an arrangement which enable the provision of tailored user interfaces from a common source of services, 4) an arrangement which enable an improved security and reliability of the connections between the user and the services, 5) an arrangement by means of which a centralized management of various services provided by various service providers is enabled, 6) an arrangement by means of which the amount of different types of software and hardware needed by the user to be able to use the various services is reduced, and 7) an arrangement, by means of which the amount of different software and hardware versions of the service providers is reduced, and in addition, by means of which the user is always provided with the latest possible updated versions of the software.

**Referring to claim 37,**

Mundy fails to explicitly teach the system of claim 32 wherein customization tool is to generate the plurality of input interfaces as including a plurality of markup language documents, and to communicate the plurality of markup language documents from a customization system to a computer system accessed by the customer.

Nimeminen teaches wherein customization tool is to generate the plurality of input interfaces as including a plurality of markup language documents, and to

communicate the plurality of markup language documents from a customization system to a computer system accessed by the customer.(col. 8, lines 28-43, col. 7, line 11-34).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this ad at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Nieminen in the "internet Service Broker" location as suggested by Mundy in col. 5, line 34-40 and clearly implemented by Nieminen as to receiving the customization information pertaining to the customized network connection application via the plurality of input interfaces and then distributing the copies of customized network application to each of the plurality of end users (Fig. 1, "Customers") associated with the customer (Fig. 1, "internet Access provider").

This would have obvious because "it provides 1) a new type of solution for accessing various services provided by means of communications networks, 2) an arrangement by means of which the accessibility of services in public communications networks is improved, 3) an arrangement which enable the provision of tailored user interfaces from a common source of services, 4) an arrangement which enable an improved security and reliability of the connections between the user and the services, 5) an arrangement by means of which a centralized management of various services provided by various service providers is enabled, 6) an arrangement by means of which the amount of different types of software and hardware needed by the user to be able to use the various services is reduced, and 7) an arrangement, by means of which the amount of different software and hardware versions of the service providers is reduced,

and in addition, by means of which the user is always provided with the latest possible updated versions of the software.

**Referring to claim 38,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 32 wherein the customization information includes pricing information indicating whether the customized network connection application displays a connection price associated with at least one network connection point accessible utilizing the customized network connection application (col. 8, lines 4-8: cost and other factors are optionally used to select the service provider connection point).

**Referring to claim 41,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 38 wherein the connection price is based on a basic connection price specified in a pricing plan associated with the customer and negotiated between the customer and a network access provider (col. 2, lines 45-51).

**Referring to claim 42,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 32 wherein the customization information includes network access point information identifying a plurality of network access points to which the customized network connection application is authorized to establish a network connection (col. 6, lines 8-12).

**Referring to claim 43,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 42 wherein the network access point information includes Point of Presence (POP) information identifying at least one Point of Presence (col. 8, lines 10-12).

**Referring to claim 44,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 43 wherein the Point of Presence information includes any one of a group of information items including a country identifier, a region identifier, a city identifier, an area identifier, a telephone number, a maximum connection speed, and price information indicating a price for accessing the at least one Point of Presence (col. 11, lines 56-61, price information; col. 7, lines 28-31 2 using geographic information or telephone number).

**Referring to claim 45,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 32 wherein the build server is to generate the network connection application as authorized to use any one of a collection of network access points to establish a network connection (col. IU, lines 19- 23), and wherein the customization information includes update information indicating whether the customized network connection application is automatically to update the collection of network access points (col. 7, lines 55r60).

**Referring to claim 46**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 45 wherein the collection of network access points includes a collection of Points of Presence (col. 4, lines 42-44).

**Referring to claim 47,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 32 wherein the customization information includes session limit information indicating a limited amount of time for which a network connection may be established utilizing the customized network connection application (col. 8, lines 58-59).

**Referring to claim 48,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 32 wherein the customization information includes connection mode information indicating a mode by which the customized network connection application establishes a network connection (col. 6, lines 10-19).

**Referring to claim 49,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 48 wherein the connection mode information indicates any one of a group of connection modes including a modem connection, an ISDN connection, a wireless broadband connection, and a wired broadband connection (col. 6, lines 15-19).

**Referring to claim 53,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 32 wherein the customization information includes error action information identifying at least one action to be performed upon occurrence of an error in an establishment of a network connection by the customized network connection application (col. 10, lines 12-16: application may retry or else use different POP upon failure, col. 10, lines 23-25: use of backup POP may increase the access cost).

**Referring to claim 58,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 32 wherein the customization information includes network access point filter information providing criteria to filter network access points that are accessible utilizing the customized network connection application (col. 7, line 63 - col. 8, line 10: geographic information and price used to identify appropriate access points to be used by used).

**Referring to claim 59,**

Mundy teaches the system of claim 58 wherein the criteria include any one of a group of criteria including a country, a state, a city, a phone number, a connection speed, an access type and a price (col. 7, line 63 - col. 8, line 10: price and geographic information used as criteria).

**Referring to claim 63,**

Claim 63 recites an apparatus that carries out the process recited in claims 1 , 2, and 3 respectively. Mundy teaches that the process of claims 1-3 may be executed in a computer machine means (col.4, lines 57-60). Claims 63-65 are rejected for the same reasons as claims 1-3 respectively.

**Referring to claim 67,**

Claim 67 recites a machine-readable medium containing instructions, which carry out the process recited in claim 1. Mundy teaches that the process of claim 1 may be executed in a machine-readable medium containing stored instructions (col.4, lines 57-60). Claim 67 is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1..

**5.** Claims 5 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mundy and Nieminen as applied respectively to claim 1 and 32 above, and further in view of Horstmann (US Patent 6,055,503).

**Referring to claim 5,**

Keeping in mind the teachings of Mundy as stated above, Mundy fails to explicitly teach distributing the customized network connection application as a self-installing executable.

Horstmann teaches distributing updates to programs as self-installing executables (col.4, lines 1 1-15).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Horstmann because they both deal with distributing customized applications to users. Furthermore, the teaching of Horstmann to use a self-installing executable to distribute the customized network application taught by Mundy would automate the process of placing files in their required locations and modifying the connection application eliminating errors by users who are not experts at product installation (See Horstmann, lines 15-19).

**Referring to claim 36,**

Keeping in mind the teachings of Mundy as stated above, Mundy fails to teach that the build server distributes updates to programs as self- installing executables (col.4, lines 1 1-15)

Horstmann teaches distributing updates to programs as self-installing executables (col.4,.lines 1 1-15).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Horstmann because they both deal with distributing customized applications to users. Furthermore, the teaching of Horstmann to use have the build server distribute the customized network application taught by Mundy self-installing as a executable would automate the process of placing files in their required locations and modifying the connection application eliminating

errors by users who are not experts at product installation (See Horstmann, lines 15-19).

**6.** Claims 8 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mundy and Nieminen as applied to respectively to claims 7 and 38 above, and further in view of Ginzboorg et al. (US 6,240,091) hereinafter Ginzboorg.

**Referring to claim 8,**

Mundy fails to explicitly teach the method of claim 7, wherein the pricing information specifies a currency in which the connection price is displayed by the customized network connection application.

Ginzboorg teaches the pricing information specifies a currency in which the connection price is displayed by the customized connection application (col. 21, lines 61-63, col. 8, lines 24-30: charging record displayed by customer includes currency type used in transaction).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Ginzboorg because they both deal with selection of parameters for connection to a network. Furthermore, the teaching of Ginzboorg to modify the teaching of Mundy to specify the currency in which the connection price is displayed by the customized network application would allow various types of currency to be used when arranging contracts for connection to a network thus increasing the options available to customers thus providing an increased customer base (col. 13, lines 23-25).

**Referring to claim 39,**

Mundy fails to explicitly teach the system of claim 38 wherein the pricing information specifies a currency in which the connection price is displayed by the customized network connection application.

Ginzboorg teaches the pricing information specifies a currency in which the connection price is displayed by the customized connection application (col. 21 , lines 61-63, col. 8, lines 24-30: charging record displayed by customer includes currency type used in transaction).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Ginzboorg because they both deal with selection of parameters for connection to a network. Furthermore, the teaching of Ginzboorg to modify the teaching of Mundy to specify the currency in which the connection price is displayed by the customized network application would allow various types of currency to be used when arranging contracts for connection to a network thus increasing the options available to customers thus providing an increased customer base (col. 13, lines 23-25).

**7.** Claims 9 and 40 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mundy, Nieminen and Ginzboorg as applied respectively to claims 8 and 39 above, and further in view of "official Notice."

**Referring to claims 9 and 40,**

Mundy fails to teach the method of claim 9 and the system of claim 39 wherein the pricing information specifies a conversion rate to be applied when the connection price is displayed in the specified currency. However it was well known in the ad at the

time the applicant's invention was made that a conversion rate could be used to convert one amount of currency an equivalent value in another currency. It would have been obvious at the time the applicant's invention was made to provide a conversion rate to allow displaying various currencies in a single currency type familiar to the customer. The motivation would be to allow the customer to more readily compare costs when selecting between multiple service providers thus providing increased selection and cost savings for the user.

**8.** Claims 19 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mundy and Nieminen as applied respectively to claims 1 and 32 above, and further in view of Carolan et al. (US 6,753,887) hereinafter Carolan.

**Referring to claims 19 and 50,**

Mundy fails to teach the method of claim 1 and the system of claim 50 wherein the customization information includes a logo to be displayed by an interface of the customized network connection application.

Carolan teaches modifying a customized network connection application to include a logo to be displayed by an interface of the application (col. 4, lines 1-6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Carolan because they both deal with customized applications to access a network. Furthermore, the teaching of Carolan to provide a logo in the user interface of the network connection application would provide the user with a reminder of which among the multiple available service providers are being used to access the network (Carolan, col. 2, lines 43-45). Because

the cost to access the network may vary with the provider, supplying the logo will allow ' the user to verify that the intended service is being used and allow service providers to differentiate their offerings (Carolan, col. 12, lines 50-54).

**9.** Claim 20 and 51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mundy and Nieminen as applied respectively to claims 1 and 32 above, and further in view of Bleuse et al. (US 6,324,579) hereinafter Bleuse.

**Referring to claims 20 and 51,**

Mundy fails to explicitly teach the method of claim 1 and the system of claim 32 wherein the customization information includes post-connect action information identifying at least one action to be performed subsequent to establishment of a network connection by the customized network connection application.

Bleuse teaches customization information specifying actions to be taken subsequent to the establishment of a network connection (col. 3, lines 40-45).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this ad at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Bleuse because they both deal with using profile information to customize a network access application. Furthermore, the teaching of Bleuse to modify the management of the customized connection application taught by Mundy to allow customization of post-connection actions would allow tailoring the connection service as desired by the user to provide custom filtering of unwanted web sites and customized billing (col. 2, lines 42-51).

**10.** Claim 21 and 52 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 1O3(a) as being unpatentable over Mundy and Nieminen as applied respectively to claims 1 and 32 above, and further in

view of Sitaraman et al. (US 6,212,561) hereinafter Sitaraman.

**Referring to claims 21 and 52,**

Mundy fails to explicitly teach the method of claim 1 and the system of claim 32 wherein the customization information includes pre-connect action information identifying at least one action to be performed prior to establishment of a network connection by the customized network connection application.

Sitaraman teaches providing customization information indicating a pre-connect action to be performed prior to the establishment of a network connect (col. 4, lines 36-54."forcing disconnection from a previous connection before allowing a new connection).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this ad at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Sitaraman because they both customizing a network connection application using a profile. Furthermore, the teaching of Sitaraman to elect based on customization information to force closed previous connections prior to initiating a new connection would provide enhanced security by isolating secure networks from other networks (Sitaraman col. 3, lines 37-41).

**11.** Claims 23 and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 1 03(a) as being unpatentable over Mundy and Nieminen as applied respectively to claims 1 and 32 above, and further in view of Corn et al. (US 5,564,017) hereinafter Corn.

**Referring to claims 23 and 54,**

Mundy fails to teach the method of claim 1 and the system of claim 32 wherein the customization information include; disconnect action information identifying at least one action to be performed upon disconnect of a network connection established by the customized network connection application.

Corn teaches providing customization information (col. 4, lines 10-15) specifying an action to be performed upon disconnect of a network connection established by the customized network connection application (col. 3, lines 25-28: user initiates disconnect., col. col. 4, lines 18-25: based on customization information, network using programs are terminated automatically or user is prompted to elect additional action)(wherein the customization information includes disconnect action information identifying at least one action to be performed upon disconnect of a network connection established by the customized network connection application.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Corn because they both deal with customizing an application managing access to a network using a profile. Furthermore, the teaching of Corn to selectively terminate network using programs or prompt the user for further action based on a profile would allow cleanly dealing with programs that require network access when a connection is terminated resulting in increase usability and reliability of network operations (See Corn, col. 4, lines 34-36).

**12.** Claims 24-26 and 55-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mundy and Nieminen as applied to claims 1 and 32 above, and further in view of MacFarlane et al. (US 6,125,354) hereinafter MacFarlane.

**Referring to claim 24,**

Mundy teaches that the customization information includes connection price information associated with network access providers (col. 8, lines 20-25).

Mundy fails to explicitly teach that the connection price information includes phonebook information identifying at least one phonebook providing a markup on a basic connection price charged by a network access provider, and to be included in a total connection price to be charged to an end-user of the customized network connection application.

MacFarlane teaches providing customization information specifying for a markup percentage (Fig. 2, item 210) applicable to particular network access provider (col. 4, lines 30-36) to be included in a total connection price to be charged to an end-user of the customized network connection application (col. 4, lines 9-21 ).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and MacFarlane because they both deal with customizing an application for network connection based on customization profiles. Furthermore, the teaching of MacFarlane to modify the management of the network connection application to provide a phonebook of markup percentages for each customer of access services would provide a tool for managing the charges in an organization by apportioning them to specific organization sub units (See MacFarlane, col. 2, lines 55-58).

**Referring to claim 25,**

Mundy, Nieminen, and MacFarlane as applied to claim 24, teaches the method of claim 24 wherein the markup is expressed as a percentage of the basic connection price (col. 1 , lines 59-61).

**Referring to claim 26,**

Mundy fails to teach the method of claim 24 wherein the total connection price comprising a sum of the basic connection price and the markup is displayed to the end-user via an interface of the customized network connection application.

MacFarlane teaches that after the markup is selected, the charges for the selected user are calculated including all price adjustments and printed (col. 36-24).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and MacFarlane to display the total connection price to the end-user via an interface of the customization network application because they both deal with customizing an application for network connection based on customization profiles. Furthermore, the teaching of MacFarlane to display the total connection price comprising a sum of the basic connection price and the markup is displayed to the end-user via an interface of the customized network connection application would provide feedback to the user of the cost associated with selecting a particular service provider allowing the user to make an informed choice of which service provider to use (See Mundy col. 13, lines 13-21 : cost savings from informed selection of access points).

**Referring to claims 55-57,**

Claims 55, 56, and 57 are rejected for the same reasons as claims 24, 25, and 26 respectively.

**13.** Claims 29, 30, 60, and 61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mundy and Nieminen as applied to claim 1 and 32 above, and further in view of Reeder (US 5,852,812).

**Referring to claim 29,**

Mundy teaches customization information includes connection price information associated with network access points (col. 8, lines 20-25).

Mundy fails to explicitly teach that the price information includes pricing rule information specifying a pricing rule to be applied to network connection points within at least one country.

Reeder teaches that providing pricing information including a rule to be applied to network connection points within at least one country (col. 18, lines 46-54).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Reeder because they both deal with customized utilizing in a network access application. Furthermore, the teaching of Reeder to provide pricing information including a rule to be applied to network connection points within at least one country supports a pricing scheme allowing the service provide to collect for the difference in costs associated with accessing the network from outside of their home region thus making it economically feasible for the service provider to allow making the connection (See col. 18, lines 46-58).

**Referring to claim 30,**

Mundy fails to teach the method of 29 wherein the pricing rule specifies a markup percentage to a connection price charged by a network access provider for access in the at least one country.

Reeder teaches a pricing rule specifying a markup percentage charged by a network access provider in the at least one country (col. 15, lines 64-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this ad at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Mundy and Reeder because they both deal with customized billing in a network access application. Furthermore, the teaching of Reeder to specify a markup percentage to a connection price charged by a network access provider for access in the at least one country supports a pricing scheme allowing the service provide to collect for the difference in costs associated with accessing the network from outside of their home region thus making it economically feasible for the service provider to allow making the connection (See col. 18, lines 46-58).

**Referring to claims 60 and 61,**

Claims 60 and 61 are rejected for similar reasons as claims 29 and 30 respectively.

**14.** Claims 31 and 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mundy, Nieminen, and Reeder as applied respectively to claims 29 and 60 above, and further in view of 'Official Notice'.

**Referring to claim 31 and 62,**

Mundy fails to teach the method of claim 29 and the system of claim 60 wherein the pricing rule specifies a range price rule that utilizes a basic connection price charged by a network access provider for access in the at least one country. However the Office takes official notice that prices markup plans where a fixed retail price is charged for service offerings within a range of wholesale prices were well known in the art at the time the applicant made the invention. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this ad at the time the invention was made to modify the management system and method for customizing a network connection application as taught by Mundy to accommodate the a range price rule that associates a basic connection price with a range of prices would increase the utility of application by allowing it to accommodate more connection offerings.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abp
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